

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 755

By Harwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Demetria Kalodimos on the occasion of her thirtieth anniversary with WSMV television.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should salute those broadcast journalists who have dedicated themselves to providing their viewing public with important information about the issues of the day; and

WHEREAS, February 1, 1984, was truly a red-letter day in Nashville television history; on that fateful day, Demetria Kalodimos joined the late Dan Miller on the anchor desk at WSMV and thus began a long and illustrious career with Channel 4; and

WHEREAS, fast forward thirty years and Demetria Kalodimos is now the longest continuously-serving evening news anchor in WSMV history and is consistently voted a favorite in local viewer polls; and

WHEREAS, a native of Chicago, Ms. Kalodimos began her career in broadcast journalism at WICD in Champaign, Illinois, as an anchor/reporter; in 1984, she was chosen in a nationwide search to join Mr. Miller in a two-anchor format on the WSMV evening news; and

WHEREAS, since that time, she has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest ability and integrity who is committed to the highest precepts of journalism; and

WHEREAS, during her thirty-year tenure with WSMV, Channel 4, Demetria has received fifteen Emmys, two National Headliner Awards, two Investigative Reporters and Editors National Awards, the Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Reporting, and two national citations from American Women in Radio and Television; in 1996, she was honored as Tennessee Associated Press Broadcaster of the Year; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her duties as news anchor, Demetria explores the other side of the camera by producing documentaries for her own Genuine Human Productions; her

documentaries have been screened and received awards at the Nashville Independent Film Festival, The Sidewalk Moving Pictures Festival, Indie Memphis, the Berkeley Film and Video Festival, Barebones, and the Chicago International Film Festival, among others; and

WHEREAS, she has also produced and directed nationally-broadcast music videos for Americana artist Mary Gauthier and singer-songwriter Shawn Camp; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kalodimos majored in music at Illinois Wesleyan University, graduating *cum laude* in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in Music Education; and

WHEREAS, she then continued her education and pursued her true calling at the University of Illinois, where she was awarded a Master of Science degree in Journalism; in 2007, she was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Illinois Wesleyan; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated walker and hiker, Ms. Kalodimos still savors her victory in the Women's Racewalk division of the Detroit International Marathon in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kalodimos is a lifelong and patient fan of her hometown's Chicago Cubs and Chicago Bears, but also supports Nashville's local teams, especially the Nashville Sounds and the Tennessee Titans; and

WHEREAS, her many professional achievements and exemplary career aside, Ms. Kalodimos is most grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her husband, singer-songwriter Verlon Thompson; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to thank Demetria Kalodimos for keeping the citizens of Nashville and Middle Tennessee fully abreast of current events; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Demetria Kalodimos for her distinguished career in broadcast journalism on the occasion of her thirtieth anniversary with Nashville's WSMV television and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.